

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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TAGS: PINT EG

SUBJECT: CELEBRATION OF FIFTH ANNIVERSARY CORRECTIVE REVOLUTION

REF: 75 CAIRO 9657

1. GOE MADE MAJOR CELEBRATION THIS YEAR OF MAY 15, DATE CHOSEN ON WHICH TO CELEBRATE EVENTS OF FIRST 15 DAYS OF MAY 1971 WHICH ENDED INTERREGNUM AND CONFIRMED SADAT AS NASSER'S SUCCESSOR. EVENT, UNTIL LAST SEPTEMBER KNOWN AS CORRECTIVE "MOVEMENT", WAS CELEBRATED AS NATIONAL FETE, THROUGH SADAT HIMSELF STAYED IN BOURG AL ARAB. PAPERS WERE FILLED WITH EDITORIALS LAUDING ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF "CORRECTIVE REVOLUTION," RULE OF THE LAW, NEW FREEDOMS, OCTOBER WAR "VICTORY," ESTABLISHMENT OF FULL DEMOCRATIC PRACTICES, AND BUILDING OF ECONOMY. SPECIAL SESSION OF PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY MET MAY 15 TO HEAR SHORT MESSAGE FROM SADAT (READ BY SPEAKER MAR'I) IN WHICH PRESIDENT STRESSED THAT DEMOCRATIC PRACTICES SHOULD BE GIVEN EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO SUCCEED SO THAT THE BUILDING OF DEMOCRACY AND THE NEW EGYPTIAN CITIZEN CAN TAKE PLACE. SADAT ADMITTED THAT COUNTRY FACES ECONOMIC CRISES AS RESULT FOUR WARS AND SAID DURING COMING YEARS "ECONOMIC BATTLE MUST BE WAGED IN THE SAME WAY AS THE MILITARY BATTLE." SADAT NOTED THAT THE CURRENT PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY WAS THE FIRST ASSEMBLY IN EGYPT'S HISTROY WHICH HAD COMPLETED ITS CONSTITUTIONAL TERM.

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3. ASSEMBLAGE WAS THEN ADDRESSED BY PRIME MINISTER, TWO DEPUTY SPEAKERS, FORMER SPEAKER AND OTHER NOTABLES ALL OF WHOM SINGLED OUT CERTAIN ASPECTS OF "CORRECTIVE REVOLUTION" FOR SPECIAL PRAISE. ON MORNING MAY 16 PRIME MINISTER SALIM DELIVERED A SPEECH MARKING "CORRECTIVE REVOLUTION" TO GROUP OF STUDENTS, AND ATHLETIC PRIZES AND OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS WERE HELD THROUGHOUT CAIRO. LONG LIST OF NOTABLES CALLED AT ABDIN PALACE TO SIGN PRESIDENTIAL BOOK AND POLICE BANDS GAVE PERFORMANCES IN MAIN SQUARES OF CAIRO.

4. COMMENT: THE TERM "CORRECTIVE REVOLUTION" HAS GRADUALLY CREPT INTO EGYPTIAN POLITICAL LEXICON SINCE PRESIDENT SADAT'S SPEECH ON SEPTEMBER 28, 1975 COMMEMORATING 5TH ANNIVERSARY OF NASSER'S DEATH. IN THAT SPEECH SADAT INDICATED NASSER HAD VIOLATED NATIONAL CHARTER SINCE OBJECTIVES OF 1952 REVOLUTION INSISTING ON RESTORATION OF POLITICAL FREEDOMS WERE NEVER IMPLEMENTED, DUE TO ABSENCE OF POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS AND EMERGENCE OF CENTERS OF POWER. THUS, SADAT SAID, 1971 "CORRECTIVE MOVEMENT" WAS ACTUALLY "NEW REVOLUTION" A UNIQUE EXPERIENCE WHICH HAS RESTORED THE IDEALS OF 1952 REVOLUTION.
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